

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JERUSA 02023 262039Z

ACTION NODS-00

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FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1385

S E C R E T JERUSALEM 2023

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (ATHERTON, ALFRED L., JR.)

SUBJECT: ATHERTON TALK WITH SAUDI DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER MANSOURI

REF: AMMAN 6146 (U.S. DEL. NO. 10)

FROM ATHERTON

U.S.DEL. NO. 15

1. I HAD AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A FOLLOW-ON TALK WITH MANSOURI ON THE WAY TO THE AIRPORT TO TAIF MONDAY MORNING, JULY 24, DURING WHICH HE MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. SAUDI ARABIA WOULD NOT OPPOSE FURTHER DIRECT EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI TALKS FOR NOW. IT WOULD CONTINUE TO STALL ON SUGGESTIONS FOR AN EARLY ARAB SUMMIT OR A MEETING OF THE ARAB SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE, CHAIRED BY NUMEIRI, OF WHICH IT IS A MEMBER.

B. BY OCTOBER, HOWEVER, IT WILL BE NECESSARY THAT THERE BE EITHER AN EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI AGREEMENT OR A PUBLICLY STATED U.S. POSITION.

C. SAUDI ARABIA BELIEVES THAT POSITION SHOULD INCLUDE ENDORSEMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN STATE, OR AT A MINIMUM, PALESTINIAN SELF-DETERMINATION. WITH THIS EXCEPTION, SAUDI ARABIA AGREES WITH OUR ASWAN FORMULATIONS.

D. SAUDI ARABIA HAD CONSIDERED RECOMMENDING THAT SYRIA

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RECIEVE ME DURING MY CURRENT TRIP BUT HAD DECIDED NOT REPEAT NOT TO DO SO SINCE, AFTER HEARING MY PRESENTATION TO PRINCE SAUD, THERE WAS NOT ENOUGH NEW IN THE U.S. POSITION AT THIS TIME TO BE PERSUASIVE WITH THE SYRIANS. THE SAUDIS CONTINUE, HOWEVER, TO ATTACH IMPORTANCE TO U.S.-SYRIAN DIALOGUE AND BELIEVE TIME FOR A VISIT TO DAMASCUS MAY BE AFTER THE SECRETARY'S FORTHCOMING TRIP WHEN HOPEFULLY WE WILL HAVE MORE TO CONVEY.

2. I OUTLINED TO MANSOURI ALL THE REASONS WHY OUR ASWAN FORMULATION WAS MORE REALISTIC THAN A CALL FOR UNRESTRICTED SELF-DETERMINATION AND TOLD HIM THERE WERE A NUMBER OF EXAMPLES IN RECENT HISTORY WHERE ACTS OF SELF-DETERMINATION HAD NOT PRESENTED THE PEOPLE CONCERNED WITH A FULL RANGE OF OPTIONS. HE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THIS, AND I UNDERTOOK TO REQUEST DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE EMBASSY JIDDA WITH BRIEFING MATERIAL IN THIS RESPECT WHICH COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE SAUDIS.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT THE DEPARTMENT PROVIDE THE FOREGOING MATERIAL TO EMBASSY JIDDA. I SEEM TO RECALL THAT WE ALREADY HAVE ON FILE A LEGAL STUDY OF THIS SUBJECT.

4. DEPARTMENT REPEAT AMMAN, CAIRO, JIDDA,
TEL AVIV, DAMASCUS.
NEWLIN

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Message Attributes

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